

EQIP 2009 Irrigation Ranking Tool* *

Land Uses: Crop, Hay, Pasture

****This option is limited to water conservation improvements on existing systems. Requirements: Applicant has implemented minimal erosion control practices to control gullies and meet tolerable soil loss level "T" on contract acres. Applicant must have irrigated 2 of the past 5 years. An Irrigation Water Management Plan must be developed and implemented.**

National Priorities:

Questions:

Number	Question	Points
1	Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in a considerable reduction of non-point source pollution, such as nutrients, sediment, pesticides, excess salinity in impaired watersheds with total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) where available, groundwater contamination or point sources such as contamination from confined animal feeding operations?	1
2	Will the treatment you intend to implement for water conservation or irrigation efficiency using EQIP result in a considerable reduction in water use?	10
3	Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in a considerable reduction of emissions, such as particulate matter, nitrogen oxides (NOx), volatile organic compounds, and ozone precursors and depleters that contribute to air quality impairment violations of National Ambient Air Quality Standards?	1
4	Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in a considerable reduction in soil erosion and sedimentation from unacceptable levels on agricultural land?	1
5	Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in a considerable increase in the promotion of at-risk species habitat conservation?	1
6	Will the treatment that you intend to implement using EQIP result in considerable benefits to residue management, nutrient management, air quality management, invasive species management, pollinator habitat, and animal carcass management technology or pest management?	1
7	Will the treatment that you intend to implement using EQIP result in energy conservation benefits?	1
Total Points		16

State Issues:

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
1		Choose one of the following six questions:	
	1	Is the Irrigation Enhancement Index Score (agreed to enhancement score minus benchmark score) 50 points or more?	23
	2	Is the Irrigation Enhancement Index Score (agreed to enhancement score minus benchmark score) between 45-49 points?	18
	3	Is the Irrigation Enhancement Index Score (agreed to enhancement score minus benchmark score) between 40-44 points?	14
	4	Is the Irrigation Enhancement Index Score (agreed to enhancement score minus benchmark score) between 35-39 points?	10
	5	Is the Irrigation Enhancement Index Score (agreed to enhancement score minus benchmark score) between 30-34 points?	5
	6	Is the Irrigation Enhancement Index Score (agreed to enhancement score minus benchmark score) between 0-29 points?	1
2		General Questions:	
	7	Does the producer have a current conservation plan (plan that adequately addresses soil erosion, water quality, including nutrients if applicable) for the land unit he/she is proposing for contract?	9
	8	Is the producer a Limited Resource Farmer based on the USDA online self determination tool?	7
	9	Is the land unit proposed for contract located in one of the sub-watersheds that NRCS is targeting due to excess sediment and nutrients?	6
Maximum Points: 45 Total Points			93

Selected Resource Concerns and Practices*:

Practice	Water Quality: Excessive Nutrients and Organics in Surface Water	Water Quality: Inefficient Water Use on Irrigated Land
Grade Stabilization Structure (410)	X	X
Irrigation Storage Reservoir (436)		X
Irrigation System, Microirrigation (441)	X	X
Irrigation System, Sprinkler (442)	X	X
Irrigation Water Conveyance, Pipeline, A (430A)	X	X
Irrigation Water Conveyance, Pipeline, H (430DD)	X	X
Irrigation Water Management (449)	X	X
Pipeline (516)	X	X
Pond Sealing - Clay Treatment (521D)		X
Pond Sealing or Lining, Bentonite Sealant (521C)		X
Pond Sealing or Lining, Flexible Membrane (521A)		X
Pond Sealing or Lining, Soil Dispersant (521B)		X
Pumping Plant (533)	X	X
Structure for Water Control (587)	X	X
Underground Outlet (620)	X	X
Water Well (642)	X	

****Practices listed above may have changed. Check with your local field office or EQIP Program Manager. See the EQIP Program Website at <http://www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/eqip/index.html>***